[redacted]

20 August 1963

A/B, III, 7, 5

SUBJECT: Meeting

Place: Office of [redacted] C
Time: 3:20 P.M. 20 August 1963
Present: [redacted] A

1. [redacted] started the meeting by stating he had called it to discuss the polygraph as a valid device for detecting deception. He had encountered a great faith in it on the part of operations and a great scepticism on the part of most trained psychologists who were not active in using it. C

2. [redacted] then discussed a book on lie detection by a [redacted] which states that experience has shown that a trained operator using a polygraph can determine the nature of the deception being practiced in 9/10 of the cases where deception exists. The 1/10 remaining will include the 1% of persons supposed to exist who have no response to the polygraph technique. [redacted] stated that in running several thousand cases they have never encountered such a person. A,C A

3. [redacted] stated that evaluation of the polygraph requires answers to the following questions: C

a. Have any studies been made as to its reliability in measuring the responses it is supposed to measure?

b. What limitations exist? - The machine measures stress, but when do we stop getting pure stress responses. Indians have known that feigned responses are often confused with stress responses. Designers of any new device will have to keep portability in mind. The 45-50# of the present Keeler equipment is probably an upper weight limit.

c. Why is there such a difference in opinion as to the reliability of the polygraph? (referred to above)

d. Has any study scientifically evaluated one polygraph against another?

e. Has any one established a standardized degree of training for polygraph operators?

[redacted]

[redacted]

c. If the instrument is a valid indicator, how could it increase the legal acceptance in civil courts of its findings? - The [redacted] is finding it such a good investigative tool that it is [redacted] a large number of agencies [redacted] H

b. [redacted] raised the question as to whether or not the polygraph could be used as a means of measuring intelligence due to its detecting responses. C

5. [redacted] stated he felt any project that could be developed could be related to the one new undertaking for the [redacted] in which there is a basic study of the biochemistry of fatigue. Our interest in deception could be pin-pointed to the biochemical response of the nerves to stress. He stated that he knew [redacted] was interested in both these areas. C, H, G

6. The encephalograph was mentioned. It was noted that [redacted] probably would not be using it as [redacted] C
[redacted] were making a very thorough investigation of it at present. There is some work now being done at [redacted] on the device, but under whose sponsorship it was not known.

7. Various related activities were mentioned as follows:

a. [redacted] has been interested for some years in a device for determining nervous stress by measuring blood flow. He has expressed interest in the detection of deception. C

b. There is a medical clinic in [redacted] which is specializing in the use of hypnosis in the treatment of nervous disorders. H

c. [redacted] mentioned a new drug called "Thorazine" which is better than scopolamine at making persons talk freely. C

d. The existence of [redacted] was mentioned. C

8. In conclusion, it was decided that:

a. A complete and scientific investigation of all polygraphs is in order. This should:

(1) Determine the best available

(2) Determine how it could be improved

b. [redacted] such an investigation is most appropriate within the scope of [redacted] and should be a part of the [redacted] which [redacted] is to give [redacted] in the near future. C, H, G

c. [redacted] who is now a consultant for [redacted] on other matters will speak to [redacted] about expediting the assignment of the polygraph investigation project to [redacted]. C, G

[redacted] A